

Claims:

Please replace the presently pending claims with the following:

1. (Original) In a film-forming skin protectant composition capable of forming an elastic film when applied to skin and including a film-forming component comprising polyether polyurethane dispersed in a carrier, the improvement which comprises a quantity of tackifier resin dispersed therein, said tackifier resin being a resinous material other than a gum.
2. (Original) The composition of claim 1, said tackifier resin being selected from the group consisting of rosin ester resins, terpene resins, aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbon resins, aliphatic-aromatic hydrocarbon resins, dimer ester resins, silane matrix resins, alkyl phenolic resins, and combinations thereof.
3. (Original) The composition of claim 2, said tackifier resin selected from the group consisting of tall oil rosin esters, glycerin rosin esters, pentaerythritol rosin esters, polyterpene resins, aliphatic C5 resins, C5/C9 aliphatic-aromatic, dimerate polyol ester resins, capped hydrolyzed quadrafunctional silane matrix resins, tertiary butyl phenolic resins, and combinations thereof.
4. (Original) The composition of claim 1, said tackifier resin being present in the composition at a level of from about 1-20% by weight.

5. (Original) The composition of claim 1, said film-forming component further comprising a quantity of nitrocellulose.

6. (Original) The composition of claim 1, said film-forming component further comprising a quantity of benzoin gum.

7. (Original) The composition of claim 1, said polyether polyurethane being present at a level of from about 5-25% by weight in the composition.

8. (Original) The composition of claim 1, said carrier being a solvent for said film-forming component and selected from the group consisting of THF, cyclohexane, toluene, ethers, ketones, alcohols, alkylene glycols and mixtures thereof.

9. (Original) The composition of claim 1, including a germicidal agent dispersed in said carrier.

10. (Original) The composition of claim 9, said germicidal agent selected from the group consisting of linear or branched chain fatty acids, bronopol, sodium pyridinathione, poly-hexamethylene biguanide, chlorhexidine diacetate, quaternary ammonium compounds and mixtures thereof.

11. (Original) The composition of claim 1, said composition having a viscosity of from about 50-5000 cPs.

12. (Original) A film-forming composition for protecting animal skin comprising:
from about 5-50% by weight of a film-forming component consisting essentially of a mixture of polyether polyurethane and nitrocellulose; and
from about 1-20% by weight of a tackifier resin,
said film-forming component and said tackifier resin being dispersed in a carrier.

13. (Original) The composition of claim 12, said carrier being a solvent for said film-forming component and selected from the group consisting of THF, cyclohexane, toluene, ethers, ketones, alcohols, alkylene glycols, and mixtures thereof.

14. (Original) The composition of claim 12, said composition comprising from about 5-25% by weight polyether polyurethane and from about 0.2-20% by weight nitrocellulose.

15. (Original) The composition of claim 12, said composition further comprising up to about 20% by weight benzoin gum.

16. (Original) The composition of claim 12, said tackifier resin being selected from the group consisting of rosin ester resins, terpene resins, aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbon resins,

aliphatic-aromatic hydrocarbon resins, dimer ester resins, silane matrix resins, alkyl phenolic resins, and combinations thereof.

17. (Original) The composition of claim 16, said tackifier resin selected from the group consisting of tall oil rosin esters, glycerin rosin esters, pentaerythritol rosin esters, polyterpene resins, aliphatic C5 resins, C5/C9 aliphatic-aromatic resins, dimerate polyol ester resins, capped hydrolyzed quadrafunctional silane matrix resins, tertiary butyl phenolic resins, and combinations thereof.

18. (Original) The composition of claim 12, said composition further comprising a germicidal agent.

19. (Original) The composition of claim 18, said germicidal agent selected from the group consisting of linear or branched chain fatty acids, bronopol, sodium pyridinathione, poly-hexamethylene biguanide, chlorhexidine diacetate, quaternary ammonium compounds and mixtures thereof.

20. (Original) The composition of claim 12, said composition having a viscosity of from about 50-5000 cPs.

21. (Original) A film-forming composition for protecting bovine teats comprising:

from about 5-50% by weight of a film-forming component comprising polyether polyurethane; and
from about 1-20% by weight of a tackifier resin,
said film-forming component and said tackifier resin being dispersed in a carrier,
said composition having a retention time at least about 10% greater as compared with an otherwise identical composition including only benzoin gum and no other tackifier resin.

22. (Original) The composition of claim 21, said retention time being at least about 15% greater as compared with said otherwise identical composition.

23. (Original) The composition of claim 21, said tackifier resin being selected from the group consisting of rosin ester resins, terpene resins, aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbon resins, aliphatic-aromatic hydrocarbon resins, dimer ester resins, silane matrix resins, alkyl phenolic resins, and combinations thereof.

24. (Original) The composition of claim 23, said tackifier resin selected from the group consisting of tall oil rosin esters, glycerin rosin esters, pentaerythritol rosin esters, polyterpene resins, aliphatic C5 resins, C5/C9 aliphatic-aromatic resins, dimerate polyol ester resins, capped hydrolyzed quadrafunctional silane matrix resins, tertiary butyl phenolic resins, and combinations thereof.

25. (Original) The composition of claim 21, said film-forming component further comprising a quantity of nitrocellulose.

26. (Original) The composition of claim 21, said film-forming component further comprising a quantity of benzoin gum.

27. (Original) The composition of claim 21, said polyether polyurethane being present at a level of from about 5-25% by weight in the composition.

28. (Original) The composition of claim 21, said carrier being a solvent for said film-forming component and selected from the group consisting of THF, cyclohexane, toluene, ethers, ketones, alcohols, alkylene glycols and mixtures thereof.

29. (Original) The composition of claim 21, including a germicidal agent dispersed in said carrier.

30. (Original) The composition of claim 29, said germicidal agent selected from the group consisting of linear or branched chain fatty acids, bronopol, sodium pyridinathione, poly-hexamethylene biguanide, chlorhexidine diacetate, quaternary ammonium compounds and mixtures thereof.

31. (Original) The composition of claim 46, including a dye dispersed in said carrier.
32. (Original) The composition of claim 46, said composition having a viscosity of from about 50-5000 cPs.
33. (Withdrawn) A method of protecting bovine teats comprising the step of applying to such teats the composition of claim 1, and allowing the applied composition to dry thereon and form an elastic, teat-protecting film.
34. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 33, said teats being the teats of non-lactating cows.
35. (Withdrawn) A method of protecting bovine teats comprising the step of applying to such teats the composition of claim 12, and allowing the applied composition to dry thereon and form an elastic, teat-protecting film.
36. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, said teats being teats of non-lactating cows.
37. (Withdrawn) A method of protecting bovine teats comprising the step of applying to such teats the composition of claim 21, and allowing the applied composition to dry thereon and form an elastic, teat-protecting film.

38. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 37, said teats being teats of non-lactating cows.